

## FARM BILL LISTENING SESSION COMMENTS

Regulation and those who write policy need to be reminded of the intent of Congress' laws. An example can be seen in the appearance of disparate treatment of new producers in the Crop Disaster Program (CDP). This does not help encourage new and/or young farmers/ranchers when governmental policy seems to work against them.

Below is an example of how this effects the producers:

In the crop disaster program (CDP) for 2003, 2004 crops new producers that have not purchased crop insurance are ineligible for payments for prevented planting provisions. The provisions of the program require crop history by producer for prevented planting. If a producer purchased federal crop insurance they are covered.

Example: Two young farmers live next to each other, they started farming in 2003 and are hit with a severe drought and have no irrigation water. Each, of the young farmers, have farms with barley history. They made plans to plant barley, worked the ground, fertilized, and purchased seed. The first of the young farmers (let's call him Farmer A) purchased federal crop insurance for the crop barley for 2003. The second young farmer (let's call him Farmer B) was too late to purchase insurance for 2003 when he took over the farm.

Farmer A collects federal crop insurance for 2003. In 2005 he qualifies for CDP and receives a payment because of his involvement with federal crop insurance.

Farmer B is not eligible for any assistance for his loss because he did not have federal crop insurance and did not have a personal history of planting barley in spite of the fact the farm had a history of barley production.

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